



MAINE AFL-CIO

A Union of Unions Fighting for Maine Workers

21 Gabriel Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2669, Bangor, Maine 04402-2669

Tel. (207) 622-9675 • Fax (207) 622-9685

Visit our website: www.maineaflcio.org



President

Don Berry

maineaflcio@yahoo.com

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, D.C. 20554

Vice President

Pat Carleton

cpcarleton@yahoo.com

Secretary Treasurer

Alan Shepard

ashepard@ibew567.com

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FCC Mail Room

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WT 11-65: In the matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or transfer control of licenses and authorizations

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

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As an organization whose primary focus is ensuring economic and social justice for working families, the Maine AFL-CIO fully supports the proposed merger of AT&T and T-Mobile due to the positive impacts it will have on job growth and workers' rights.

AT&T is the only wireless provider that allows employees to organize. Their union-neutral stance is not shared by T-Mobile, which discourages collective bargaining. T-Mobile managers are trained to quash any union activity within the company, whereas AT&T management is trained to remain neutral and make no impact on the employees' decisions regarding collective bargaining. As was the case with past mergers, we understand that AT&T will maintain a neutral policy with respect to the organizing of T-Mobile employees that will join the combined company. This will give their 20,000 workers and their families a valuable opportunity to enjoy union representation and the core benefits it entails, if they choose.

In addition to the positive impact this transaction will have on the rights of workers, it is also likely to spur job growth. AT&T plans to build out their 4G LTE high speed wireless network to reach over ninety seven percent of the United States. An expansion of this magnitude is certain to create many new jobs, at a time when job creation is an issue of tremendous importance to the state of Maine.

For the above mentioned reasons, the Maine AFL-CIO believes that it is in the public interest for the Commission to approve the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile. It is certain to do great things for working families in Maine, as well as the rest of the country, and we would be very pleased to see the transaction move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Don Berry, President
Maine AFL-CIO

CC:

Commissioner Michael Copps

Commissioner Robert McDowell

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

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